

Chicago Farmers' Review: "The present condition of the winter wheat crop is better than could have been hoped for before the breaking up of the drought in the fall. This is attributable to the late rains just before setting in of winter, and to the snow mantle which has quite generally covered the growing wheat since. Late reports of crop correspondents, briefly summarized, give the following percentages of condition as compared with an average: Ohio, forty-two counties, condition, 82.8 per cent; Illinois, sixty-six counties, 90.7 per cent; Missouri, forty-nine counties, 88.6 per cent; Kansas, forty-nine counties, 105 per cent; Wisconsin, twenty-six counties, 65.3 per cent; Kentucky, twenty counties, 84.2 per cent; Michigan, twenty-two counties, 88.5 per cent. These figures indicate an average condition of about 87 per cent in the winter wheat areas of the central west. November reports of the acreage seeded to winter wheat in the same states indicate about 85 per cent of an average, which, with the present condition, indicates about 82 per cent of an average amount of crop for the coming harvest, provided average conditions are as favorable as experienced."

Professor Vaughan of the Michigan state board of health is likely to find himself wrong now and then. The dispatch says he has succeeded in "immunizing" a cat with a disease similar to typhoid fever by the use of the germs found in the water used by the 300 victims of the source at Iron Mountain, Mich. Of course we can't establish the principle of sacrificing 300 human lives to destroy one cat life, but perhaps the professor will improve on his ratio; and, meanwhile, he seems, whatever the case, to have disposed of one cat. That certainly is to his credit. From a practical point of view it is immaterial whether the disease is "typhoid fever" or only similar to typhoid fever; it is, fortunately, all the same to the cat, and, if science is concerned with the immediate distinction. If the disease is a cat, it would probably kill an animal similar to a cat good, though we never to say there are differences among cats—we hear them daily and nightly—all a germ that will give cats, or animals similar to cats, the typhoid fever, something "similar" to it, is a discovery that civilization has long been waiting for, with open windows—do-it-jack and blacking-brush in hand.

THE VESTIBULE TRAIN.

By Yale Commercial Advertiser.

On the vestibule system, however, as in the Pittsburgh case, the advantages are not only to the greater comfort, but also to the greater safety of the traveler, it will be regarded with justice as a necessity, rather than a mere luxury, and will permit of a more general use. A Friday's excursion is a still more desirable proposition, and would have, of course, undoubtedly, a general assumption and a profitable loss of life. The cars would be broken into into lists and traversed and a special together, and the vestibule is used in such cases. But here was a long train, crowded together on the vestibule plan, which ran all right into a heavy freight train, and not even leave the track, nor was it possible to get out of the train, and the progress. This is emphatically something in railroading. The days of sleeping seem to have gone by, or, at least, they will soon be passed, if the vestibule system can be relied on to the extent that it is now being used, and to indicate its requirements would an-

have heard some things from New York, and if they are true we might well go to some party there as a drunken fellow to get a little more reading, an indictment for hog stealing. The clerk read out till he got to and through the words, "I'll steal, take and carry away the goods of another man, and be a drunkard," at which he exclaimed: "Well, by George! That is the most equally divided kind of hogs I ever did hear of!"

Colo. Democrat: The nearest to a solution of the divorce difficulty comes at us from a little German principality, the duke of which said of some people, irrespective of character, if it is a man or a woman who is a drunkard to receive a license. The officer to whom application was made has, as one of his duties, to ascertain the character of both parties, as whether one or the other is addicted to getting drunk. If a license shall be granted to an individual who has the habit, This is doubtless better than keeping divorce courts based upon such misnamings. A drunkard is incapable of building a true home, and he is not liable to be a good father. The argument is a good one and well worth consideration.

It is the first step on the road of the great Darwin spoke when he said the world was a place when we should consider the breeding of human beings with the same care bestowed on animals.

Polish cattle are becoming quite popular among Kansas farmers. It is said that this desirable breed combine the best qualities of the cow and the good farm stock.

The Hon. Thomas Brand has introduced a bill in congress making an appropriation of \$100,000 for the creation of a monument to the negro soldiers and sailors who gave their lives for the pres-

the course of an article on the iron industry and the enormous growth of the traffic in that commodity in its limitless forms in the United States, the *Boston Journal of Commerce* says:

The year 1886 was a prosperous one for the iron trades of the United States, the way of production and consumption. It surpassed all previous years. The consumption of iron for that year was 11,039,633 long tons, of which ten million were produced in the country, leaving, but a small quantity obtained through importations. The consumption and importation were greater in 1887, the latter amounting for the first six months of the year to 1,662,927 tons, and the production of the United States stands at the head of the list of the mineral products of the country, both in quantity and value. According to the census of 1880, the amount of capital invested at that time in the production of iron in the United States was \$249,971,854, or the operation of 1,065 establishments, whose requirements were 7,265,140 tons annually. Since then the consumption has increased nearly 50 per cent, the production of the country of iron and steel for the year 1888, its increase over that of 1875, was 49 per cent, the product of pig iron, including cast-iron, 64 per cent in the product of Bessemer and rails; 66 per cent of iron on an anvil, and 26 per cent of rolled iron, not rails. So great was the growth that, at the end of the year, the United States had attained the first position in the world in the production of the mineral products of iron, steel, manufactured iron, and of manufactures of iron. Great Britain is second only to Great Britain in the production of pig iron.

FRANK SIEGER, ON THE PREMISES, OR

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